

// A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg, recessed from September 27, was held on the 11th day of October, 2005, at 4:00 P.M., E. C. Glass High School, Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to tour the newly renovated E. C. Glass High School and to have a joint meeting with the School Board. The following Members were present:

Present: Dodson, Foster, Gillette, Helgeson, Johnson, Seiffert, Hutcherson

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Absent:

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// Following a tour of the newly renovated E. C. Glass High School, Council and School Board members convened in the School's Library. Mayor Carl Hutcherson and Schools Chair Julie Doyle welcomed everyone to the joint meeting.

// Parks and Recreation Director Kay Frazier presented an overview regarding a recently completed study of Lynchburg's athletic fields, stating that the purpose of the presentation was to provide information, stimulate dialogue, and identify additional information or questions to explore, including the next steps to be taken with regard to the athletic fields. Ms. Frazier stated that there are not enough athletic fields in the City to meet current as well as future needs and that staff would like to explore the possibility of adding additional fields in the Blackwater Creek Athletic area. Ms. Frazier also identified several concerns regarding the condition of the football side of the City Stadium, and identified several options to explore including the use of artificial turf on the football field. Ms. Frazier went on to say that a recommendation would be for a committee to be formed to create a ten year plan for field upkeep and maintenance, and that both the City and Schools share field maintenance equipment, establish common field standards, policies and practices. Ms. Frazier also requested that in the immediate future that no one be allowed to use the City Stadium football field in June, July and August so that the field has time to recover, in addition to limiting the amount of varsity team time on the field and completely relocating all junior varsity and ninth grade team competitions. Following the presentation, several Council and School Board Members indicated that they were eager to address the problems outlined in the study and agreed that both groups would meet again to determine what course of action to take and what options are available, including seeking community feedback regarding the recommendations contained in the study.

// Chair Julie Doyle presented a brief overview regarding the top six issues identified at the School Board's recent retreat, i.e., alternative education, closing the achievement gaps, funding challenges, middle school reform, teacher recruitment, retention, and development, and communications and public relations.

// Schools Superintendent Dr. Paul McKendrick presented a brief overview regarding information contained in a October 4 letter to City Manager Kimball Payne concerning the Schools use of its projected Fund Balance of \$2.4 million. Dr. McKendrick explained that the School Board has engaged in preliminary discussions regarding the use of these funds, and as per the 1993 agreement, the expenditures would be for one-time purchases.

// The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.